From: Ken McKinstry

To: HIPAA Team; HIPAA wkgrp4

Date: 12/1/00 10:13AM Subject: hipaalive info

Attached and below are several interesting recent pieces of information related to HIPAA from hipaalive.

Ken

>>> Bill Braithwaite < BBRAITHWAITE@OSASPE.DHHS.GOV > 11/22/00 08:35AM >>> As a service to the HIPAA Administrative Simplification community, I am forwarding the following invitation from the co-chairs of WEDI's SNIP.

For those of you who are wondering, the privacy final regulation is still on track to be published before the end of the year (so don't call me, I'll call you :)).

Happy Thanksgiving, Bill

Because of your interest in HIPAA, we are looking to you and organizations like yours to actively participate in the national efforts to implement the Administrative Simplification provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, better known as "HIPAA."

WEDI SNIP

The Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI), a collaborative industry-wide organization made up of federal government, provider, payer, vendor, consumer and standards developing organization representatives, has established a task group to meet the immediate need to assess the industry-wide HIPAA Administrative Simplification implementation readiness and to bring about the national coordination necessary for successful compliance.

The WEDI Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP) is a voluntary, non-profit industry solution to the very real, very practical issues of HIPAA implementation. SNIP is a collaborative opportunity for early implementers to assure their interpretation is 'correct' (the industry 'best fit') and not another proprietary solution. SNIP targeted deliverables will include: best practices recommendations, identification of health information security tools and techniques, educational opportunities, a web site with a comprehensive listing of HIPAA information and resources, national conferences and teleconferences, clearinghouse for regional/state HIPAA efforts, and on-going outreach to HIPAA implementers.

How Do You Get Involved or Get More Information?

The challenges that lie ahead are many. The growing list of organizations that are currently involved are lending time and resources to help work towards industry common goals. To learn more about WEDI SNIP, sign up for the FREE WEDI SNIP informational listserv, or to become involved, visit our web site at www.wedi.org/SNIP, contact Jim Schuping the executive direction of WEDI at 703-391-2716 or send an e-mail to contact@wedi.org.

Best Regards,

Larry Watkins Chris Stahlecker SNIP Co-chair SNIP Co-chair Director ehealth & HIPAA Strategies Manager of Electronic Commerce & National Standards Per-Se Technologies, Inc. Blue Cross/Blue Shield Association